

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

HAW, Yong Noke

8th Fl. Songchon Bldg., 642-15, Yeoksam-dong, kangnam-ku  
Seoul 135-080 Republic of Korea

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing  
(day/month/year) 06 DECEMBER 2005 (06.12.2005)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

05FLWW099

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/KR2005/002797

International filing date (day/month/year)

24 AUGUST 2005 (24.08.2005)

Priority date(day/month/year)

01 SEPTEMBER 2004 (01.09.2004)

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

IPC7 A47L 15/42

Applicant

LG ELECTRONICS, INC. et al

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

## 2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/KR



Korean Intellectual Property Office  
920 Dunsan-dong, Seo-gu, Daejeon  
302-701, Republic of Korea

Facsimile No. 82-42-472-7140

Date of completion of this opinion

06 DECEMBER 2005 (06.12.2005)

Authorized officer

KIM, Sang Wook

Telephone No. 82-42-481-5476



WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
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International application No.

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Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.  
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - a. type of material  
☐ a sequence listing  
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
  - b. format of material  
☐ on paper  
☐ in electronic form
  - c. time of filing/furnishing  
☐ contained in the international application as filed.  
☐ filed together with the international application in electronic form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
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**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-20.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES
	Claims		<input type="radio"/> NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		<input type="radio"/> YES
	Claims	1-20	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-20	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES
	Claims		<input type="radio"/> NO

**2. Citations and explanations :**

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: KR 10-1999-0074527 A

D2: KR 10-2003-0092194 A

The present invention relates to a dishwasher including a control panel, a front panel disposed at the front portion of the control panel, a front display unit that is slidably coupled to at least one of the control panel and the front panel and disposed between the control panel and the front panel, and a sliding latch and a latch mounting slot that allow the front display unit to be slidably coupled.

D1 discloses a control panel for a microwave oven. The control panel is coupled with a front board coupled with a cavity assembly. Coupling projections are formed on the rear face of the control panel and penetrate many through holes formed on the front board.

D2 discloses a washing machine including a control panel (60) which is coupled by a latch and a latch mounting slot.

**Novelty**

Neither D1 nor D2 discloses a dishwasher including a sliding latch and a latch mounting slot that allow a front display unit to be slidably coupled as set forth in the present claims 1-20. Therefore, the subject matter of claims 1-20 is considered to be novel under PCT Article 33(2).

(Continued on Supplemental Sheet.)

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Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.  
Continuation of :

Box V.

Inventive Step

The dishwasher of claims 1-8 and 14 which includes a sliding latch and a latch mounting slot for slidably coupling can be readily arrived at by a combination of D1 and D2 which include coupling projections, a latch, through holes, and a latch mounting slot. Claims 9-11 and 15 include a positioning tab and a tab receptacle for positioning the front display unit. Said positioning tab and said tab receptacle can be readily derived from a combination of D1 and D2 which include coupling projections, a latch, through holes, and a latch mounting slot. Claims 12 and 13 include a front panel. Said front panel can also be readily derived from a combination of D1 and D2 which include control panels. Claims 16-20 relate to a manufacturing method of coupling the unit of a dishwasher by a sliding latch and a sliding latch mounting slot. Said manufacturing method of coupling the unit of a dishwasher by a sliding latch and a sliding latch mounting slot can be readily arrived at by a combination of D1 and D2 which include a manufacturing method of coupling the control panel and the body of an appliance by coupling projections, a latch, through holes, and a latch mounting slot. Accordingly, the subject matter of claims 1-20 does not involve an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3).

Industrial Applicability

Claims 1-20 are considered to be industrially applicable under PCT Article 33(4).